Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 EUR-12 NEA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 SIG-03 ACDA-12 OES-07 NRC-07 DOE-15 SOE-02 CEQ-01 OMB-01 /154 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USICA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE

USINT HAVANA

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY BANJUL

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AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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USMISSION USNATO

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY VICTORIA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE AMEMBASSY PRAIA AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

UNCLAS STATE 166140

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:SOPN

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT OF STATE PRESS BRIEFING, JUNE 29, 1978

FOLLOWING IS AN UNOFFICIAL, UNCORRECTED EXCERPT FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE PRESS BRIEFING. IF NECESSARY OFFICIAL VERSION WILL FOLLOW:

Q: DID YOU GET US THE STATEMENT BY WILLIAM HARROP?

A: I DON'T HAVE A STATEMENT.

Q: THE SENATE, YESTERDAY, VOTED BY, I THINK, 53 TO 29 TO SHUT DOWN THE U.S. MISSION IN HAVANA UNTIL THE CUBANS WITH-UNCLASSIFIED

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DRAW THEIR TROOPS FROM AFRICA. IN VIEW OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S STATEMENTS THAT IT TAKES INTO ACCOUNT CONGRESSIONAL SENTIMENTS ON FOREIGN POLICY, I WONDER WHAT ACTION THE ADMINISTRATION MAY OR MAY NOT TAKE IN LIGHT OF THE SENATE VOTE?

A: LET ME SAY THAT I EXPECT TO HAVE A FORMAL STATEMENT THAT I WILL POST TO THAT QUESTION.

Q: COULD YOU CONFIRM REPORTS THAT DISCUSSIONS ARE UNDERWAY WITH THE SOUTH AFRICANS AT THE MOMENT WITH A VIEW TO GETTING

SOUTH AFRICA TO SIGN THE NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY, AND HOW CLOSE ARE WE TO GETTING THAT ACCOMPLISHED?

A: I AM NOT GOING TO BE ABLE TO BASICALLY GO BEYOND THE GUIDANCE I HAD YESTERDAY, WHICH IS THAT AMBASSADOR SMITH IS IN SOUTH AFRICA, IS STILL THERE, AND THAT AMBASSADOR SMITH REPRESENTS A STAGE IN A SERIES OF CONTACTS THAT WE HAVE HAD WITH THE SOUTH AFRICANS ON MATTERS OF INTERNATIONAL CONCERN IN THE NUCLEAR FIELD. BUT I DON'T THINK THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR ME TO SPECULATE ABOUT THE

DETAILS OR THE POSSIBLE OUTCOME OF THE TALKS HE IS HAVING AT THIS TIME.

Q: SPECIFICALLY, IS HE DISCUSSING THE TREATY WITH THEM AND THEIR SIGNING IT? IS THAT THE MAIN REASON FOR HIS GOING?

A: THE TALKS CLEARLY REFLECT OUR BELIEF THAT IT WOULD BE IN THE INTERNATIONAL INTEREST OF ALL IF SOUTH AFRICA WOULD ADHERE TO THE NPT AND AGREE TO SAFEGUARDS ON ITS NUCLEAR FACILITIES.

IN THIS CONNECTION, SOUTH AFRICA HAS ALSO INDICATED ITS INTEREST IN DISCUSSING THE MATTER OF POSSIBLE NUCLEAR FUEL SUPPLY. BUT I AM SIMPLY NOT GOING TO BE ABLE TO GO UNCLASSIFIED

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INTO DETAIL ON THE NEGOTIATIONS AT THIS TIME.

Q: ASIDE FROM SMITH'S VISIT TO SOUTH AFRICA, WOULD THE UNITED STATES AGREE TO SUPPLY NUCLEAR FUEL TO SOUTH AFRICA IF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA DID NOT AGREE TO SIGN THE NPT?

A: I WILL BE GLAD TO TAKE THE QUESTION, BECAUSE I DON'T HAVE THE INTRICACIES OF THE POSITION IN FRONT OF ME, BUT I THINK THAT OBVIOUSLY THERE ARE SOME CLEAR PROBLEMS IN OUR MIND CONNECTED WITH BOTH ISSUES. I WILL TAKE THE QUESTION. VANCE

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